Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03678 030339Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /089 W

------004397 030538Z /15 R 050317Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 838
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 3678

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR, AF, KS

SUBJECT: ROKG CONSIDERING RECOGNITION OF NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

1. ROKG FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTS THAT ROK EMBASSY KABUL ADVISED MAY 2 (VIA CABLE RELAYED THROUGH U.S. FACILITIES) THAT IT HAD RECEIVED CIRCULAR NOTE FROM AFGHAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL REQUESTING ROKG RECOGNIZE NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. IN REPORTING ON REQUEST, EMBASSY HAD INDICATED THAT NEW GOVERNMENT APPEARED TO BE IN FULL CONTROL OF THE CAPITAL, AND THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND AIRPORT HAD REOPENED (ALTHOUGH MOFA HAS NOT YET RECEIVED DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS FROM ITS EMBASSY). EMBASSY SAID THAT NEW REGIME HAD NOT YET CLARIFIED ITS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES, ALTHOUGH VARIOUS FACTORS, INCLUDING BACKGROUND OF NEWLY NAMED PRIME MINISTER AND GOVERNMENT'S RHETORIC, SUGGEST IT WILL BE PRO-COMMUNIST AND PRO-SOVIET. EMBASSY HAD NOTED THAT DEGREE OF CONTROL GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO EXERT OUTSIDE CAPITAL IN AREAS OF PERSONAL LOYALTY TO THE LATE PRESIDENT DAOUD NOT YET CLEAR. CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 03678 030339Z

2. MOFA OFFICIAL SAID ROKG IS CONSIDERING AFGHAN REQUEST AND HAS ASKED ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO ASCERTAIN USG ATTITUDE ON RECOGNITION QUESTION. OFFICIAL ADDED THAT ROKG REACTION WOULD BE BASED IN LARGE PART ON EFFECTIVENESS OF NEW GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN ON IDEOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS (ALTHOUGH INQUIRY ON U.S. INTENTIONS SUGGESTS

ROK WILL	BE STRONGLY	INFLUENCED	BY U.S.	POSITION).
SNEIDER				

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Message Attributes

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